

3. Continuously review and evaluate the operation to determine whether it achieves the City's goals.
4. Conduct a cost-benefit analysis of privatization and public provision of service.

Funding

Current funding levels are inadequate to provide effective street-sweeping service. Future contractual, administrative, and educational costs of street sweeping will continue to be covered through the City's General Fund. The ESC will assist with development of communications materials.

Increase Efforts to Prevent Illegal Dumping

The City of Falls Church will enhance inspections and enforcement procedures to prevent illegal dumping. The City will take actions to more effectively deter citizens from leaving unwanted items on both public and private property.

This action supports the City's SWM program goal (Chapter 4) of eliminating illegal dumping in the City by establishing a plan of action to prevent dumping.

Although illegal dumping is not a significant community-wide problem, it does occur periodically at particularly vulnerable sites. Discarded furniture, electronics, mattresses, carpets, auto batteries, and yard waste are among the items that are left at the Falls Church Recycling Center, the City schools, and secluded commercial sites. If these and other sites are not cleaned regularly, the debris that accumulates serves as a "magnet" for additional discarded material.

Section 13-7 of the City Code addresses illegal dumping. Violations of this section of code are addressed through the civil penalties (ticketing) program, which charges \$100 for the first ticket, \$150 for each additional ticket, and up to a maximum of \$3,000 per violation. However, identifying the guilty parties is often difficult.

Aggressive illegal dumping campaigns in other communities have included posted signage, police surveillance, and promotional materials to increase public awareness of the problem and the reporting protocol.

Implementation

Implementation involves the following steps:

1. Establish a task force that includes employees from DES, Police, and Zoning.
2. Identify areas that are targets for illegal dumping.

3. Post signage that notifies the public of fines associated with illegal dumping.
4. Develop a surveillance plan for targeted areas.
5. Develop a public outreach campaign to educate residents and businesses.

Funding

Administrative and educational costs will be covered through the City's General Fund. The ESC will assist with information gathering and development of communications materials.

Promote Use of Special Fuels, Filters, and Special Vehicles for Collection

The City of Falls Church will promote the use of special fuels, filters, and special vehicles for collection. Using environmentally preferred fuels, such as biodiesel, can significantly reduce emissions of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and particulate matter. Biodiesel is also a cost-effective alternative to diesel, having a similar price per gallon, and requires no modifications to collection vehicles or fueling equipment.

The City of Falls Church may also require (for City vehicles) and promote (for private vehicles) the use of vehicle exhaust system filters to reduce air emissions from collection vehicles. Many of these filter systems are effective at removing nitrous oxides and particulates from diesel exhaust.

This action supports the City's SWM program goal (Chapter 4) of creating a model of resource efficiency, providing leadership by example.

Implementation

Implementation involves the following steps:

1. Implement the use of special fuels and filters for City collection and other fleet vehicles to reduce air pollution due to emissions. Evaluate the use of special collection vehicles.
2. Meet with private haulers to discuss their use of special fuels, filters, and special vehicles for collection.
3. Develop strategies to encourage private haulers to use special fuels, filters, and collection vehicles.
4. Develop a public awareness campaign on the use of special fuels, filters, and collection vehicles.

Funding

Equipment, administrative and educational costs will be covered through the City's General Fund.

Implement a Collection and Disposal Strategy for Emergencies

The City of Falls Church will develop a strategy for the citywide collection of solid waste generated from emergency events, including natural and homeland security disasters. Emergency events are disasters of sufficient magnitude that the President of the United States declares an emergency, enabling assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Normal severe weather events, such as thunderstorms, are not considered emergencies. The City will proactively plan to secure emergency collection services before disasters, possibly through contracts or regional agreements.

This action supports the City's SWM program goal (Chapter 4) of ensuring the safe and efficient disposal of discarded materials by outlining a course of action to be taken in the event that a natural or manmade emergency results in increased quantities of material.

The aftermath of Hurricane Isabel provided a case study for the region in the potential impact a disaster can have on waste streams and in the ability of municipalities to be flexible and coordinate with each other. The City needs to develop a plan of action for responding during an event that yields large quantities of materials that need to be moved quickly out of the City or to a staging area within the City. If plans are in place for these kinds of situations, costs, confusion, anxiety among City residents, and response time will all be reduced.

Implementation

Implementation involves the following steps:

1. Review the "lessons-learned" document prepared by the City following Hurricane Isabel.
2. Gather information from MWCOG to learn how other jurisdictions in the region dealt with waste in the aftermath of Hurricane Isabel.
3. Develop a series of response plans that vary on the basis of different potential emergencies.
4. Enter into agreements with other jurisdictions and consider agreements with private contractors for support and services in the event of an emergency.
5. Develop educational materials and provide technical assistance to appropriate City staff members to inform them of the plan and conditions for implementation.

Funding

Administrative costs for plan development will be covered through the City's General Fund.

Transfer

Although not a level in the solid waste hierarchy, transfer of solid waste is key to implementation of the City's solid waste management strategies over the next 20 years. Table 11-6 presents actions selected by the City of Falls Church for the future transfer of solid waste in the City.

Table 11-6. City of Falls Church Transfer SWMP Actions

Transfer SWMP Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue using the current transfer system – Maintain leaf mulch program at the City Transfer Yard or alternative location

Construction of solid waste transfer facilities in Virginia are permitted by rule—facility operators are only required to notify VDEQ of the intent to operate and provide documentation and certification that the facility meets VDEQ requirements. Nonetheless, all facilities governed by permit-by-rule in the City of Falls Church must be in accordance with this SWMP.

Continue Using the Current Transfer System

The City will continue to transfer solid waste as it does currently, using Fairfax County's I-66 Transfer Station for MSW, brush, and bagged yard waste; the City Transfer Yard for vacuumed leaves; and regional materials recycling facilities (MRFs) for MSW recyclables.

Implementation

The City does not need to change its current operations.

Funding

Costs of using transfer facilities include disposal and recycling fees. These costs are covered through trash collection revenue (tax revenues, private hauler fees, or an alternative revenue source, such as PAYT).

Maintain Leaf Mulch Program at the City Transfer Yard or Alternative Location

The City will continue to maintain its leaf mulch program, including offering free delivery of high-quality leaf mulch to area residents.

One concern for the transfer of City-generated yard waste is the availability of the City Transfer Yard over the SWMP planning period. The construction of a new middle school adjacent to the facility may put continued leaf storage and processing operations at the City Transfer Yard at risk. The City will evaluate alternative locations for leaf storage and processing if the City Transfer Yard is unavailable.

This action supports the City's SWM program goal (Chapter 4) of educating the community on the value of natural resources and the benefits of reducing consumption and adopting sustainable practices by providing citizens with a convenient, cost-effective way to add nutrients to the soil through use of recycled organic material.

Prior to implementation of the leaf mulch program in 1994, the City spent up to \$75,000 annually to have hundreds of tons of leaves hauled by a contractor to private facilities that charged the City to dispose of the leaves. During the past decade, the City has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars by producing a high-quality product, promoting its availability, and offering free delivery. In addition, the soils of Falls Church have been enriched through application of the leaf mulch. The leaf mulch distribution program is so popular with residents that the demand invariably exceeds the supply.

Implementation

Implementation involves the following steps:

1. Continue to operate the program, using the current processing, promotional, and delivery protocol.
2. Investigate alternative sites for processing and storage of leaf mulch if the current processing and storage area at the City's Transfer Yard becomes unavailable.

Funding

Costs of leaf processing, program promotion and administration, and mulch delivery are covered through the City's General Fund.

Disposal

Disposal management methods, including resource recovery (or waste-to-energy), incineration, and landfilling are at the bottom of the waste hierarchy. Resource recovery is preferred to landfilling since the method reduces the bulk of municipal waste and can provide the added benefit of energy production.

Table 11-7 presents actions selected by the City of Falls Church for the disposal of solid waste generated in the City over the next 20 years.

Table 11-7 City of Falls Church Disposal SWMP Actions

Disposal SWMP Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue using the current disposal system as the preferred alternative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish agreements with other jurisdictions for alternative disposal

Continue Using the Current Disposal System

The City of Falls Church prefers to continue the use of Fairfax County's disposal system for the disposal of City-generated MSW. Fairfax County currently uses the I-95 Energy/Resource Recovery Facility (E/RRF) as the primary disposal method for MSW, with out-of-county sanitary landfills to handle the "overflow" waste from the E/RRF. When MSW quantities in the county exceed the capacity of the E/RRF, the county diverts some trucks from the transfer station to out-of-county landfills rather than to the E/RRF. The county disposes of the ash generated from the E/RRF in the Area 3 Ash Landfill at the I-95 Landfill Complex.

The City will also continue the use of landfills outside the City for the disposal of its CDD. Although VDEQ data suggest Virginia CDD disposal quantities will exhaust disposal capacity within seven years, the City assumes that the private sector will secure additional CDD disposal capacity during the SWMP planning period.

This action supports the City's SWM program goal (Chapter 4) of ensuring the safe and efficient disposal of discarded materials that cannot be reused, repaired, or recycled.

Implementation

The City does not need to change its current operations.

Funding

Costs of MSW disposal are included in Fairfax County's I-66 Transfer Station fees. These costs are covered through trash collection revenue (tax revenues, private hauler fees, or an alternative revenue source, such as PAYT). Costs for CDD disposal are covered through private hauler collection fees.

Establish Agreements with Other Jurisdictions for Alternative Disposal

The City will work with other jurisdictions in the Washington metropolitan area to secure agreements for alternate disposal of the City's waste. Fairfax County's solid waste disposal system may exceed its capacity to handle City of Falls Church MSW at some point in the future. In addition,

Fairfax County may discontinue using the E/RRF when its contract with the facility expires in 2011. By conducting negotiations now, before capacity becomes a problem, the City will be in a better position to enter into such agreements.

This action supports the City's SWM program goal (Chapter 4) of ensuring the safe and efficient disposal of discarded materials that cannot be reused, repaired or recycled.

To avoid being crowded out of access to nearby solid waste facilities, the City's will identify first, second, and third choice disposal options. The City will then establish agreements to protect or support these options.

One of the factors that other jurisdictions will consider is the effectiveness of the City's HHW collection program. Since waste-to-energy incineration is the primary means of disposal in our area, separation of HHW from the MSW stream is critical to preventing the release of hazardous elements into our air, water, and soil. Therefore, the City will implement a local HHW program prior to or concurrent with the establishment of alternative disposal agreements.

Implementation

Implementation involves the following steps:

1. Collect information on current disposal practices.
2. Collect information on other options for waste disposal, and prioritize these options for the City.
3. Develop written agreements with local jurisdictions to ensure access for the City in the future.
4. Update agreements, as necessary.

Funding

Administrative costs will be covered through the City's General Fund. The ESC will assist with data collection, information gathering, and drafting agreement language.